

1                                   **IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ENGINEER**

2   **OF THE**

3   **STATE OF NEVADA**

4   **INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT**

5                                   **SUBMITTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH NRS 233B.066 UPON ADOPTION**

6   **IN CHAPTER 534 OF THE NEVADA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

7   **OF A REGULATION FOR WATER WELL AND RELATED DRILLING**

8  
9   **May 25, 2006**

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11                   Comment on the above-referenced regulation was solicited beginning on  
12   February 23, 2006, by Notice of Workshops and Hearings set for March 27, 2006 in  
13   Carson City, March 29, 2006 in Elko and March 31, 2006 in Las Vegas. The notice was  
14   mailed to 467 currently licensed well drillers and over 175 individuals and companies on  
15   an industry mailing list and was also posted in public buildings throughout the state.

16                   An informal workshop was conducted on March 8, 2006 with representatives of  
17   the Nevada Groundwater Association where the intent of the proposed regulation and  
18   timeline and procedure for providing comment was discussed. Workshops were also  
19   conducted during the first half of each of the above-referenced hearing dates and the  
20   hearing was conducted in the second half of each of those dates. A significant number  
21   of individuals from the regulated industry and the general public (29 in Carson City, 47 in  
22   Elko and 9 in Las Vegas) provided both oral and written comments on the changes in  
23   the proposed regulation. The audio recording of these sessions, the minutes of the  
24   hearing and the written comments are available for review in the Office of the State  
25   Engineer. The majority of the comment concerned the workability of some of the new

1 procedures for assessing demerit points and approval of continuing credit hours for well  
2 driller license renewal specified in the new rule.

3 The period for submitting written comment was extended at the hearing to May 1,  
4 2006. In addition to the hearing a final informal meeting was held in Carson City on May  
5 22, 2006 to discuss the agency response to comment where 9 people attended.

6 The proposed regulation was approved by the legislative counsel and was then  
7 amended to incorporate comments. The draft regulation extensively incorporated the  
8 public and industry comment received within the time frame allowed.

9 Immediate and long-term beneficial economic effects of this regulation are  
10 improvements in the quality of the product delivered by the licensed well drillers as a  
11 result of continuing education and a reduction in the costs of well plugging with  
12 additional clarification and specificity in the existing code.

13 Immediate and long-term adverse economic effects of this regulation are the  
14 additional cost to the licensed well driller to take time away from normal business activity  
15 to attend continuing education.

16 The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of this regulation is expected  
17 to be substantially the same as the cost for enforcement of the existing regulation.

18 This regulation is consistent with but may overlap some of the provisions of the  
19 regulation of the Division of Minerals adopted in NAC 534A.

20 Respectfully submitted,

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23 Hugh Ricci, P.E.

24 State Engineer

25 May 25, 2006